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Weekly Bulletin



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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

Rabies Extends Over California.

Nearly fifty cases of rabies in dogs have occurred in Marin County since November 1, 1927. For several years rabies has been prevalent in the counties of southern California and the appearance of the disease in epidemic form in northern California marks its extension into territory where it has not been found extensively for several years. The board of supervisors in January took steps to control the disease by the enactment of an ordinance which empowers county officials to capture and destroy dogs that have not been vaccinated against rabies. The city of San Rafael took similar action and both the city and county are engaged in the active enforcement of dog control ordinances. The other incorporated cities in Marin County are considering the enactment of similar ordinances for use in their respective communities.

Equally important with immunization against the disease is the impounding and destruction of stray dogs. Rabies is maintained and is spread by homeless, wandering dogs. Animals that are kept at home and are under supervision are not liable to contract rabies, unless they come in contact with a sick, wandering, homeless dog. The two most effective measures of control known at the present time consist of immunization by means

of vaccination and the impounding and destruction of stray animals.

The diagnosis of rabies in a dog may not be easy and may require expert opinion, but the following symptoms may be considered as sufficient evidence for suspecting rabies and reporting the animal to the local health officers. There is generally a sudden change in the disposition of the animal. Dogs which are generally good tempered may become sulen or even vicious, and dogs which are ordinarily of mean disposition may become docile and submissive. There is generally, however, an unusual nervousness or irritability, with a tendency to leave home and wander aimlessly from place to place. There may appear a change in the tones of the animal's voice. At this stage, the dog generally refuses to eat and develops a tendency to snap and bite without provocation. In the later stages of the disease, there is generally a weakness or a paralysis of the legs and of the lower jaw. Animals that may be suspected of having rabies should be kept under proper care and observation and should not be killed or released until ten days shall have elapsed, dating from the beginning of confinement. If the animal dies or has been killed, its head should be sent to the state or municipal laboratory for examination.

The incubation period of rabies is extremely variable. It may be anywhere from two weeks to several months. In dogs, the average is from two to four

side County 2, Sacramento 6, San Diego County 1, San Diego 9, San Francisco 36, San Joaquin County 2, Lodi 1, Stockton 3, San Luis Obispo 1, Daly City 1, Redwood City 1, South San Francisco 1, Santa Barbara County 1, Santa Clara County 2, San Jose 1, Sonoma County 1, Sutter County 1, Ventura County 3.

Measles.

127 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Oakland 4, Fresno 2, Kingsburg 1, Kern County 1, Los Angeles County 6, Burbank 5, Glendale 6, Los Angeles 10, Monrovia 1, San Fernando 1, Hawthorne 1, Pacific Grove 1, Salinas 1, Anaheim 1, Riverside 2, Sacramento 6, San Bernardino 1, Upland 1, San Diego County 3, Oceanside 7, San Francisco 52, Stockton 1, San Luis Obispo 1, Santa Clara County 3, San Jose 2, Vacaville 1, Sonoma County 1, Ventura County 3, Davis 1, Winters 1.

Smallpox.

39 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Berkeley 1, Oakland 23, Los Angeles 3, Sacramento 9, San Francisco 1, Santa Clara County 1.

Typhoid Fever.

13 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Kern County 1, Los Angeles County 1, Los Angeles 4, Monterey Park 1, Alturas 1, La Habra 1, San Joaquin County 2, Sutter County 1, California 1.

Whooping Cough.

109 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Oakland 3, Los Angeles County 12, Glendora 2, Hermosa Beach 5, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 5, Los Angeles 11, Pasadena 2, Pomona 1, Whittier 3, Monterey 1, Orange County 8, Anaheim 1, Orange 2, Santa Ana 5, Laguna Beach 1, Riverside County 2, Corona 2, San Diego County 4, Oceanside 2, San Diego 18, San Francisco 8, San Joaquin County 1, Lodi 1, Stockton 6, San Mateo County 1, Ventura 1.

Meningitis (Epidemic).

5 cases of epidemic meningitis have been reported, as follows: Compton 1, Los Angeles 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 1, Stockton 1.

Poliomyelitis.

17 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: Fresno County 1, Kern County 1, Los Angeles 2, Pasadena 1, Salinas 1, Santa Clara County 8, Watsonville 3.

Encephalitis (Epidemic).

San Francisco reported one case of epidemic encephalitis.

Malta Fever.

Los Angeles County reported one case of Malta Fever.

Trichinosis.

Chico reported two cases of trichinosis.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS.

Disease	1928				1927			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending Feb. 4 received by Feb. 7	Week ending			Reports for week ending Feb. 5 received by Feb. 8
	Jan. 14	Jan. 21	Jan. 28		Jan. 15	Jan. 22	Jan. 29	
Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Botulism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chickenpox	587	457	515	439	465	533	660	471
Diphtheria	142	135	165	138	166	184	158	159
Dysentery (Bacillary)	6	0	0	2	0	0	2	0
Encephalitis (Epidemic)	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	2
Gonococcus Infection	85	86	98	79	106	87	86	141
Influenza	34	41	41	57	48	39	48	40
Jaundice (Epidemic)	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	7
Leprosy	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Malta Fever	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1
Measles	103	74	107	127	1682	1814	1938	2409
Meningitis (Epidemic)	9	4	8	5	4	2	7	9
Mumps	153	194	180	215	236	238	222	231
Paratyphoid	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Pneumonia (Lobar)	78	62	76	100	105	70	72	63
Poliomyelitis	11	6	2	17	3	2	3	2
Rabies (Animal)	21	21	20	21	10	6	5	11
Rocky Mt. Spotted Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	222	210	247	218	315	299	315	299
Smallpox	24	40	27	39	34	77	30	17
Syphilis	133	113	169	165	113	115	119	113
Tetanus	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Trachoma	4	4	6	9	2	7	2	36
Trichinosis	0	0	3	2	2	5	1	0
Tuberculosis	203	190	233	231	136	187	183	129
Typhoid Fever	16	5	7	13	13	15	10	2
Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	146	145	121	109	96	93	98	109
Totals	1982	1790	2026	1988	3539	3781	3964	4251